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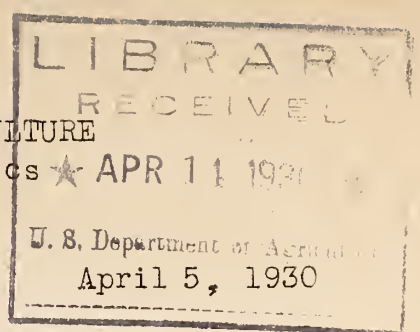
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bureau of Agricultural Economics ★ APR 11 1930  
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R-36

FOREIGN NEWS ON RICE

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THE RICE MARKET SITUATION

The following statement issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics summarizes the rice market outlook in relation to information received on farmers' planting intentions:

"Information received on intentions to plant rice in 1930 points to an increase of about 9.4 per cent in the combined rice acreage of Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas, and an increase of about 37 per cent in the rice acreage of California. With yields equal to the average of the last five years, this would mean an increase of 5 per cent, compared with 1929, in the production of southern rice, and an increase of 15 per cent in California rice, making an increase of 6 per cent for the total United States production.

"The Agricultural Outlook Report for 1930 issued in January, contains the following recommendation 'Rice acreage in the southern belt for 1930 probably could be increased as much as 4 per cent, or about 25,000 acres, without depressing prices below the 1929 levels. .... If rice acreage in California in 1930 is maintained or slightly increased over last year's figure, and an average yield obtained, the production will be about equal to requirements of the domestic market and Hawaii.' The intentions-to-plant report indicates that in both the southern belt and California the acreage increase will be considerably greater than was recommended in the 1930 Outlook Report. If these intentions to plant are executed and average yields are obtained, the prospects are that 1930-31 prices will be lower than in 1929-30 and possibly as low as in 1927-28."

Rice exports and shipments to insular possessions

Exports of southern rice (total exports less exports from San Francisco) for the first seven months of the season, August to February, amounted to approximately 145,000,000 pounds, a decrease of 8 per cent from the heavy exports for the same period in 1928-29. Large exports during the first few months of the season and increased shipments of Argentine and Chile throughout the season to date account largely for the relatively small reduction in exports this season in the face of the smaller supply and higher price of southern rice. All foreign markets,

except the two mentioned, have taken less southern rice thus far this season than last. Shipments of rice to Porto Rico were about 6 per cent less during the first seven months of this season than in 1928-29.

Exports of California rice, as measured by exports from the Port of San Francisco, have been very small thus far amounting to only 7,249,000 pounds during August to February, a decrease of 74 per cent from exports for the same period in 1928-29. European markets have taken little California rice this season and exports to Japan have been negligible. Canada has been the only market to increase its takings of California rice. Shipments of California rice to Hawaii have been somewhat larger thus far this season but not enough to make up the difference in exports. See Table, page 4.

#### Foreign rice production and trade

Production of rice in the Asiatic surplus areas in 1929-30 was larger than in the preceding season but production in the deficit areas, notably China, India excluding Burma, and the Dutch East Indies was smaller. The result has been an increase in the intra-Asiatic trade in rice, with the movement to China particularly heavy. Shipments from Asia to Europe have also been larger thus far this year than in 1929.

The supplies of rice available for export from the three surplus producing areas of Asia, Burma, Indo-China and Siam, appear to be nearly 10 per cent greater than in 1929. Rice production in all India was nearly 3,000 million pounds less than in 1928-29. Production in Burma, however, which supplies about three-fifths of the Asiatic surplus, was estimated at 11,072 million pounds, of which 6,153 million pounds were available for export, compared with 10,963 million pounds and an exportable surplus of 5,824 million in 1928-29. Production in the seven surplus producing provinces of Siam for 1929-30 was estimated at 3,049 million pounds, an increase of nearly 23 per cent over the relatively short crop of 1928-29. The surplus is placed at 1,900 million pounds against exports of about 1,500 million last year. An estimate for Indo-China production is not yet available but trade reports indicate an exportable surplus for 1930 larger than for 1929.

China is ordinarily the leading Asiatic rice importer. The 1929 rice crop of China was poor according to Agricultural Commissioner Nyhus at Shanghai, because of deficient spring rainfall and extensive damage from the rice borer in the Yangtze Delta and Central China. The central region of the Yangtze Valley is the only large region of surplus rice production in China but the surplus was small in 1929. South China, which is a consistently large rice importer, also had a poor crop. Production of rice in Japan and her colonies was slightly less than in 1928. The 1929 crop of Java, also an importing area, was the smallest in five years.

Spain and Italy, the principal European rice producers, both had crops in 1929 larger than in 1928. See Table, page 3.



Prices of rice in world markets

Prices of rice in all the principal producing countries except the United States have shown a downward trend in recent months. This has also been true, with the exception again of American rice, of prices in European markets. The February average price of Burma No. 2 in London was the lowest in recent years. The price of American Blue Rose in London, on the other hand, has been rising since December and in February averaged 5.11 cents per pound against 4.62 cents in February 1929 and 4.51 cents in February 1928. The low price of Spanish rice 3.31 cents, Belloch No. 3, in February against 4.29 cents in February last year explains in part the small sales of California rice in European markets this season. Prices of Asiatic rices in European markets showed a strengthening tendency during March. See Table, page 5.

CLEANED RICE: Production in countries now reported for 1929,  
average 1909-1913, annual 1926-1929

Country	: Average :	:	:	:	:
	: 1909-1913:	1926	1927	1928	1929
	:	:	:	:	:(Prelim.)
	: Million	Million	Million	Million	Million
	: pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
United States:	:	:	:	:	:
Southern States <u>a</u> /...	:	937	995	974	944
California .....	:	222	249	227	173
Total .....	660	1,159	1,244	1,201	1,117
Guatemala .....	<u>b</u> / 2	1	2	2	2
Spain .....	300	435	421	395	414
Italy .....	646	925	947	859	916
Bulgaria .....	9	20	18	26	23
Yugoslavia .....	<u>c</u> / 3	2	2	3	3
Japanese Empire:	:	:	:	:	:
Japan proper .....	15,787	17,465	19,510	18,944	18,763
Chosen .....	3,293	4,807	5,435	4,245	4,304
Taiwan .....	1,412	1,952	2,167	2,135	2,056
Siam, 7 provinces .....	<u>d</u> /4,258	4,207	3,626	2,875	3,549
India .....	64,144	66,483	63,244	71,989	69,102
Java and Madura .....	6,433	7,732	7,951	7,669	7,200
Total, 12 countries :	96,947	105,188	104,567	110,343	107,449

a/ Includes Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas and Missouri.

b/ Two year average.

c/ Pre-war average.

d/ Total Siam.

RICE, GRAIN: United States exports a/ through Gulf Ports and San Francisco, and total exports by countries of destination, August 1 - February 28, 1928-29 and 1929-30

Country to which exported	Aug 1 - Feb 28					
	<u>Gulf ports b/</u>		<u>San Francisco</u>		<u>Through all districts</u>	
	1928-29	1929-30	1928-29	1929-30	1928-29	1929-30
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Belgium .....	14,950	5,500	0	0	14,951	5,500
Germany .....	26,236	24,097	1,394	282	26,627	24,425
Netherlands .....	12,710	9,338	111	34	12,849	9,371
United Kingdom .....	23,345	17,597	4,858	806	28,203	22,432
Canada .....	0	0	1,620	2,696	12,705	9,088
Honduras .....	1,475	1,445	4	0	1,479	1,792
Cuba .....	7,239	5,865	3,085	0	10,391	5,865
Argentina .....	9,233	18,341	4,575	1,360	13,809	20,372
Chile .....	5,515	13,696	454	75	5,969	13,782
Colombia .....	12,458	10,025	0	0	12,580	10,070
Japan .....	0	0	2,624	834	2,623	835
Other countries .....	32,062	31,692	8,844	1,162	43,575	29,025
Total .....	145,223	137,596	27,569	7,249	185,761	152,557

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce

a/ Does not include shipments to non-contiguous territories.

b/ Includes Galveston, Sabine and New Orleans Customs Districts.

RICE a/: United States shipments to Alaska, Hawaii and Porto Rico, August 1-February 28, 1928-29 and 1929-30

Shipments to	Aug 1 - Feb 28	
	1928-29	1929-30
	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
Alaska .....	345	440
Hawaii .....	43,756	46,914
Porto Rico .....	122,384	114,928

a/ Includes flour, meal and broken rice.

RICE: Price of milled rice at important world markets,  
in cents per pounds, August 1927 to date

Season and month	Price in producing countries				Price in London c.i.f. basis			
	India	Indo-	New	Tokyo	Indo-	American:		
	Burma	China:	Orleans:	middle	India	China	fancy	Spanish
	No 2	No 1	Blue	grade	Burma	Saigon:	Blue	Bellech
	at	round:	Rose	Brown	No 2	No 1	Rose	No 3
	Rangoon:	white:	head	a/			b/	
		at						
		Saigon:						
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1927-28								
Aug .....	2.56	2.54	4.1	5.47	3.20	3.14	5.64	3.86
Sept .....	2.53	2.43	4.1	5.30	3.15	2.98	5.32	3.82
Oct .....	2.43	2.27	3.9	4.17	3.05	2.74	4.97	3.74
Nov .....	2.52	1.97	3.8	4.90	3.13	2.74	4.64	3.69
Dec .....	2.51	2.17	3.7	4.54	3.13	2.84	4.75	3.73
Jan .....	2.35	2.10	3.7	4.74	3.12	2.89	4.64	3.56
Feb .....	2.44	2.38	3.7	4.82	3.12	2.92	4.51	3.48
Mar .....	2.39	2.24	3.6	4.83	3.01	2.86	4.55	3.85
Apr .....	2.24	2.20	3.7	4.83	2.96	2.82	4.70	4.22
May .....	2.19	2.15	3.9	4.61	2.98	2.80	5.01	4.71
June .....	2.24	2.06	3.9	4.64	2.91	2.63	4.96	4.64
July .....	2.20	2.01	3.9	4.41	2.89	2.55	4.92	4.24
1928-29								
Aug .....	2.17	1.92	3.9	4.54	2.76	2.57	---	3.81
Sept .....	2.15	2.12	3.9	4.95	2.80	2.84	4.67	3.91
Oct .....	2.38	2.36	3.6	4.64	3.04	2.95	4.63	4.22
Nov .....	---	---	3.8	4.36	3.11	2.98	4.73	4.48
Dec .....	2.31	2.59	3.8	4.22	3.01	2.89	4.80	4.45
Jan .....	2.22	2.15	3.8	4.09	2.87	2.90	4.64	4.45
Feb .....	2.14	n.o.	3.8	4.12	2.85	2.89	4.62	4.29
Mar .....	2.11	2.01	3.5	4.21	2.80	2.79	4.67	4.10
Apr .....	2.08	2.04	3.6	4.19	2.78	2.74	4.67	4.01
May .....	2.17	2.13	3.8	4.17	2.80	2.80	4.61	3.78
June .....	2.23	2.36	3.8	4.11	2.83	2.87	4.59	3.71
July .....	2.32	2.37	3.8	4.16	2.94	2.94	5.08	3.84
1929-30								
Aug .....	2.31	2.39	---	4.17	2.91	2.95	5.05	3.74
Sept .....	2.45	2.82	4.4	4.20	3.06	3.25	5.11	3.72
Oct .....	2.43	2.73	4.2	4.55	3.03	3.07	4.75	3.68
Nov .....	2.26	2.61	3.9	4.51	2.78	2.69	4.62	3.63
Dec .....	2.06	1.96	4.0	4.36	2.69	2.66	4.62	3.50
Jan .....	c/2.01	c/1.97	4.1	4.15	2.60	2.63	4.68	3.42
Feb .....	---	---	4.5	4.24	2.40	2.57	5.11	3.31

Prices in India and Indo-China are from International Institute of Agriculture, London prices are from London Rice Brokers' Association, Weekly Circulars and New Orleans prices are from Bureau of Labor Statistics.

a/ Wholesale prices in Tokyo as compiled from Annual Statistical Reports of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce for 1927 and 1928. Monthly prices for 1929 are an average of about one daily quotation per week as cabled currently to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. b/ United States standard allows up to 10 per cent broken kernels. c/ Average of first three weeks.

